

NEWENT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the Year

1953

M.L. SUTCLIFFE

T.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NEWENT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Hygiene Conditions and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1953.

It includes the report of the Sanitary Inspectors and is compiled to conform with Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/54, dated 12th January, 1954.

In accordance with paragraph 10 of the above circular, the distribution of this report is a wide one, and includes:-

The Ministry of Health.

The County Medical Officer of Health.

The Ministry of Food.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service.

The population of the District has, according to the Registrar General's figures, not changed much in the last few years, in fact, since 1950 it has dropped by 215. This is disappointing, because the fewer people there are in a District, the fewer people there are to pay the rates.

Details are given in the report, of housing, water supplies and sewerage together with the routine work done by the Public Health Department, and also other matters of interest to the Council.

From the tables on vital statistics on page 3, it is very satisfactory to note that the birth rate is well above, and the death rate well below that for England and Wales. Another satisfactory feature is the fact that there have been no deaths of mothers in child birth since 1946, but the infantile mortality rate this year is rather high.

The amount of infectious disease was a little higher than in 1952, but tuberculosis was less and the figures in the District compare very favourably with those of the County as a whole.

I should like to thank the Council's staff for their assistance, and also the members of the Public Health Committee and Council for their co-operation in Public Health matters.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

MAURICE L. SUTCLIFFE.

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1954.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY.

M.L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Joint M.O.H. Committee, and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for No. 5 Division (Gloucester Area Health Sub-Committee).

H.S. JENKINSON, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor. Inspector under Petroleum Acts and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

B.G.H. RISBEY, C.R.S.I., Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

MISS M.C. DAVIS. Clerk (part time).

MRS. M.B. GOUGH. Clerk (part time).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area (in acres), 48,845.

Population Registrar-General's estimated Home Population mid-1953, 8,146.

Number of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1953) according to Rate Books, 2,505.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1953), £29,218.

Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1953), £117.5.10.

The District remains practically entirely agricultural, and with the exception of the town is rural in character. Newent town, although a small one, is a shopping centre for the countryside, and all secondary modern and grammar school children attend the schools in the town.

There is a small factory (Newent Engineering Co. Ltd) on the outskirts of the town. It has been reducing its staff for some time and the works are expected to close on March 31st, 1954.

ADOPTIVE LEGISLATION IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. Section 1 (adopted 7.4.38).

Byelaws.

- i. Building Byelaws (adopted 1.8.53).
- ii. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air (adopted 14.8.50).

VITAL STATISTICS.

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the District, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 29.

Table 1. Infantile Births and Deaths.

	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.			Combined Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births.	80	60	140	1	2	3	143
Still Births.	1	3	4	1	-	1	5
Infant Deaths:							
(a) 0-4 weeks.	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
(b) 4 weeks to 1 year.	2	2	4	-	1	1	5

Table 2. Deaths.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Deaths.	47	46	93

Table 3. Birth and Death Rates.

	Newent Rural District.	England and Wales.
Crude live birth rate per 1,000 population.	17.55	} 15.5
*Corrected live birth rate per 1,000 population.	19.66	
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births.	34.9	22.4
Crude death rate per 1,000 population.	11.39	} 11.4
*Corrected death rate per 1,000 population.	9.45	
Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births.	42.0	26.8
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	34.8	} Not available
Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	50.0	
Death rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births.	Nil	0.76

*Note. - The Corrected Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates by the factors 1.12 and 0.83 respectively. These factors are supplied by the Registrar-General and serve to make the Crude Rates for the District comparable with the Rates for the country as a whole, or with the Rates of any other area, whose Rates have been similarly modified.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of pathological specimens, and analyses of milk and ice cream samples etc., is carried out at the laboratory of the Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, under the Medical Research Council scheme. (There is no charge for this work).

Water and sewage analyses, taken by this Department, are carried out by the Council's Analysts, Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

Water analyses of the Gloucester Corporation water supplies are carried out by the Corporation Analyst.

Hospitals.

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention and dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over, which is administered by the Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Management Committee.

Ambulance Facilities.

There has been no change during the year, one County Council ambulance and 3 full-time driver-attendants being stationed in Newent. Infectious disease cases are transported by the Over Hospital ambulance.

Nursing in the Home.

There are 3 District Nursing Associations in the area which are supervised by the County.

The whole District is covered by the nurses, who, in addition to midwifery and home-nursing, act as Health Visitors for the County and carry out school medical work, Health and Tuberculosis visiting etc.

Home Help Service.

This service is administered by the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council.

The following types of cases are assisted and the figures on the 31st December, 1953, were:-

Maternity cases.	3
General sickness.	2
Tuberculosis.	-
Chronic sick or old age.	20
Total.	<u>25</u>

This total of 25 compares with a total of 17 in December, 1952. The scheme is very popular and it undoubtedly means that many of the cases cared for are able to remain in their own homes instead of having to be sent to hospitals or institutions. This applies specially to cases of chronic sickness and old age.

There were, on the 31st December, 1953, 16 part-time home helps in the District.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

These Centres are under the general administration of the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council, but as this Committee is composed of Members of this Council together with Members of Tewkesbury Borough and Gloucester Rural District Council, it is felt that the following particulars of the work done by the Centres serving the District are of interest.

The Centre at Ashleworth is in Gloucester Rural District but serves this Council's Parishes of Corse, Hartpury and Staunton (about 50% of the children attending).

The valuable work done at these Centres is shown in Table 4, which is compiled from attendance figures submitted to the Divisional Health Office. Very many thanks are due to the Voluntary Committees and helpers, and they can certainly derive great satisfaction from the results of their labours.

Table 4.

Centre.	No. of sessions in 1953.	No. of first attendances.		Total No. of attendances.		
		Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Total
Ashleworth.	24	35	17	209	365	574
Dymock.	16	31	9	166	251	428
Newent.	26	55	15	411	639	1050

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

These are administered by the County Council, but particulars are given as a matter of interest. They are all held at The Clinic, Picklenash School, Newent.

MINOR AILMENT CLINIC. Second Tuesday a.m. in the month attended by a Doctor. (This Clinic is closing in 1954).

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC. Every Wednesday a.m. attended by an orthopaedic sister and attended every three months by an orthopaedic surgeon.

DENTAL CLINIC. Every Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

Ear, Nose and Throat. cases are now seen in Gloucester.

MORTUARY.

In 1940, as part of A.R.P., the Chapel portion of the Cemetery building was converted into a Mortuary. Main water and main sewerage are provided. It was not used at all in 1953.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE DISTRICT.

Water Supplies.

Main Supplies.

1. Gloucester Corporation.

The District is mostly supplied from the Corporation's two pumping stations in the Newent area.

Samples from these sources are regularly analysed by the City Analyst and reports of those taken in the District are submitted to this Department (see Table 5). They were all satisfactory for human consumption, but according to the classification of the Central Advisory Water Committee are "very hard".

In accordance with the Gloucester Corporation Water Act, 1945, the Corporation lays mains as required by this Council, subject to sanction for major extensions being given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the County Council in order to obtain loans and grants.

Extensions of Mains in 1953.

Newent.	9710 yards.
Redmarley.	5893 "
Rudford.	686 "
Staunton.	640 "
Taynton.	2912 "
	<hr/>
	11½ miles

Extensions of Mains authorised by the Council.

Dymock.	18050 yards.
Hartpury.	2967 "
Newent.	14280 "
Taynton.	4500 "
	<hr/>
	22⅔ miles

Nearly double the amount of new mains were laid in 1953 compared with 1952, and excellent progress is being made. Conditions generally in the laying of new mains are improving.

2. Malvern Urban District Council.

This authority supplies the Parish of Bromsberrow and part of the Parishes of Dymock and Redmarley. There were no extensions of mains in 1953.

Table 5 shows that all main water samples taken in the District were satisfactory.

In view of the fact that the presence of fluorides in water has an effect in preventing dental decay, it is satisfactory to note that fluorides are present in the Newent main supplies to the amount of about one part per million. Where fluoridation of public water supplies is done artificially, this is the strength recommended.

Water Shortage in the District.

Some complaints were received during the year of domestic water shortage. One deep well at Pauntley showed signs of drying up, but main supplies are, however, available. The possible effects of a new borehole for the Malvern U.D.C. are being very closely watched by the Council.

Well Supplies.

Every year, the increase of main water supplies, which provide a safe water supply, reduces the number of wells which, as will be seen from Table 5 do not provide a safe water.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses of Water Supplies serving the District.

Table 5.

Source of Supply.	Total No. of Analyses.	Bacteriological.		Chemical.	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Gloucester Corporation.	48	24	-	24	-
Malvern U.D.C.	10	5	-	5	-
Wells Etc. (Council Analyst).	22	1	17	-	4

I have to acknowledge with thanks the reports on the Gloucester Corporation and Malvern Urban District water analyses which are sent to this Department by the courtesy of the City Water Engineer and the Malvern Urban District Council Water Engineer respectively.

It is pointed out that all the main supplies were satisfactory, whereas only one of the well supplies was. The extension of main water supplies, which are being carried out by the Council are, therefore, very necessary.

Water Supplies and Sanitation in Newent Town.

In 1953, an investigation was carried out on the water supplies and sanitation in the Newent Town Lighting Area, and the following interesting information was obtained:-

Total number of houses investigated 310. This does not include the 108 Council houses in the area which all have main water, baths and W.C's.

No. of houses with main water.	274.
No. of houses with well water.	36.
No. of houses with baths (with tap).	120.
No. of houses with W.C's (with flush).	246.

9 random samples were taken of the well water supplies, and none of them were considered entirely satisfactory. The owners and tenants of houses with well supplies were requested to provide themselves with main water.

It will be seen that well over half the older type of houses in the town have no bath and that a number are even without a modern type of W.C. These are both bad defects in hygiene and sanitation when considered by modern standards and it is to be hoped that every assistance will be given by the Council to improve these conditions.

Main Water Supplies in the District showing the Number
of Houses and Population served.

(These figures are provided in accordance with Ministry of Health
Circular 1/54).

Table 6.

Parish.	Main Supply.	No. of houses supplied.	Pop.	Stand Pipes (Main).	No. of houses supplied.	Pop.
Bromsberrow.	Malvern U.D.C.	46	150	1	2	7
Corse.	Glos. Corporation.	56	182	—	—	—
Dymock.	Malvern U.D.C.	43	140	4	26	85
	Glos. Corporation.	109	354	—	—	—
Hartpury.	" "	61	198	—	—	—
Kempley.	" "	47	153	—	—	—
Newent.	Newent Town (Glos. Corporation).	408	1326	7	19	62
	Glos. Corporation.	135	439	—	—	—
Oxenhall.	" "	40	130	—	—	—
Pauntley.	" "	24	78	1	1	3
Redmarley.	" "	80	260	—	—	—
	Malvern U.D.C.	10	33	—	—	—
Rudford.	Glos. Corporation.	41	133	—	—	—
Staunton.	" "	70	228	—	—	—
Taynton.	" "	9	29	—	—	—
Tibberton.	" "	43	140	—	—	—
Upleadon.	" "	48	156	—	—	—
	TOTAL	1270	4129	13	48	157

The above table shows that a further 95 houses were connected to the main during the year and this may be considered a very satisfactory increase. Over 50% of the population now have main water supplies compared with only 29% in 1945.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION.

Most sewage disposal in the district is on the 'conservancy' system, householders disposing of their own sewage.

The Council's sewage disposal plants are as follows:-

- i. Newent Town. This system is old and out of date, and the purification of sewage is practically nil. The Council's Consulting Engineer has been instructed to prepare working drawings for new works at Cleeve Lane. During the year the Memorial Hall and 2 houses were connected to the town sewers.
- ii. Dymock Village. These modern sewage works provide main drainage for the village. 27 houses are now connected, an increase of 2 in the year. It is most unsatisfactory that the school with nearly 150 children is still not connected up.
- iii. Corse and Staunton. The new works have now been completed. They have a capacity of 39 houses and can easily be enlarged to 60. 2 private houses have already been connected up and it will serve the 12 new Council houses and also private development.
- iv. Redmarley. The Council's works serve 16 Council houses. There is a ditch in the village serving a number of houses. It is cleansed as required by the Council, but gives considerable trouble.

Drainage Works.

Sewers. 460 feet of sewer extensions were laid to serve Picklenash School.

Drains. 5242 feet of new drains were laid during the year.

Latrine Accommodation.

28 bucket or privy latrines were converted to W.C's during the year.

Public Lavatories.

The Council have Public Lavatories at Newent and Dymock. Those at Dymock are treated well by the public, but this cannot be said of those at Newent, where deliberate damage seems to be popular among a certain type of user.

Refuse Collection.

There has been no change during the year and the whole District is scavenged. A new tip is in use at Malswick. Trade refuse is collected from some premises on payment.

Salvage.

There is still no demand for paper salvage, but cardboard is collected and has a sale.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Department is tabulated below.

Table 7.

	No. of Inspections.	Notices Served.		Defects remedied after Notice.	
		Informal.	Formal.	Informal.	Formal.
Dwelling Houses.	906	161	—	126	—
Milk and Dairies.	14	—	—	—	—
Factories etc.	64	4	—	4	—
Bakehouses.	29	3	—	3	—
Food Premises.	299	12	—	12	—
Slaughterhouses.	—	None in use since 1939.			
Water Supplies.	190	12	1	8	—
Drainage & Sewerage.	394	21	—	21	—
Infectious Disease.	3	Disinfection carried out when necessary.			
Pests.	386	8	—	8	—
Miscellaneous.	731	27	—	26	—
TOTAL	3016	248	1	208	—

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Responsibility for the administration of Section 38, sub-sections 3, 4 and 5 were delegated to this Authority by the County Council in 1952. These sub-sections deal with the health conditions of shop workers.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

No licences were issued during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades in the District.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS, 1928-1936.

40 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit and one for the storage of calcium carbide.

CAMPING SITES.

9 licences were issued during the year for individual caravans and there are now 27 current licences in the District. They comply with the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No complaints were received during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public swimming baths. Some use is made of the River Leadon for bathing purposes.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS, STREAMS, ETC.

The River Severn Board, an authority created under the River Boards Act, 1948, is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act of 1876.

DISINFESTATION (BED BUGS ETC).

3 complaints were received and the necessary disinfestation carried out.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report by the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the following work was carried out:-

Table 8.

	Inspections.	Treatments.
Private Dwellings.	90	20
Council Houses.	24	3
Farms.	46	G.A.E.C.
Business Premises.	164	2
Sewers.	14	Nil
Refuse Tips.	48	5
TOTAL	286	30

Details of work carried out on Sewers and Refuse Tips.

Table 9.

Sewers and Works.	Action Taken.	Result.
Cleeve Lane Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Cadbury's Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Lancaster Terrace Sewage Works.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Newent Town Sewers.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Dymock New Sewerage System.	Test Baited in November.	Clear.

Table 10.

Refuse Tips.	Action Taken.	Result.
Dymock Refuse Tip.	Test Baited (3 treatments).	Clear.
Highleadon Refuse Tip.	Test Baited.	Clear.
Malswick Tip.	Test Baited (2 treatments).	Under Observation.

When this Council carries out treatments at private dwellings or business premises at the request of the owner/occupier, charges are made to cover the full cost of the treatments except in the case of old age pensioners.

The Council have no arrangements to carry out disinfection by contract.

SCHOOLS.

Hygiene defects are noted at school medical inspections and are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health. Unfortunately, these are not uncommon.

In 1929 I reported as follows to my then Council and the same remarks still hold good:-

"In some country schools, the offices, for example, are very inferior to those used by the children in their own homes. Naturally this suggests to the child that what is good enough for the Education Committee is good enough for it, and so, instead of trying to improve its own conditions, hygienically, it is quite satisfied with things as they are. Similarly with washing facilities, which are as a rule even more primitive than in the children's homes. Ultimately, of course, this lack of cleanliness and tidiness leads to physical defects; but these are so insidious that their onset is unnoticed."

The following improvements have been carried out during 1953, or are in view:-

- i. Pauntley School. A new sanitary annexe replacing old bucket latrines has been built providing for:-
 - (a) Staff. 1 W.C. and wash-basin.
 - (b) Boys. 2 W.C's, urinal and 2 wash-basins.
 - (c) Girls. 2 W.C's and 4 wash-basins.
 This annexe has its own small sewage disposal system and is most satisfactory.
- ii. Lowbands School. This is the only school in the District without main water, and as a result of pressure from this Department the County Architect asked in December, 1953, for tenders to provide a main supply from the adjacent main recently laid by the Council. (A main supply was provided in February, 1954).

Table 11. Water Supplies and Latrine Accommodation in Schools.

School.	Water Supply.	Remarks on Water Supply.	Type of Latrine.
Bromsberrow.	Main.	Malvern U.D.C.	Bucket.
Corse.	"	Glos. Corporation.	"
Dymock.	"	" "	W.C's.
Hartpury.	"	" "	"
Newent.	"	" "	"
Pauntley.	"	" "	"
Redmarley.	Well.	Unsatisfactory.	Earth
(Lowbands).		(Main water carted).	Closet.
Staunton.	Main.	Glos. Corporation.	Bucket.
Tibberton.	"	" "	W.C's.
Upleadon.	"	" "	"

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

By this Authority.	8
By Private Enterprise.	17
Total.	<u>25</u>

The 8 Council houses erected during the year were in the Corse Parish.

Council houses under construction:-

Corse, Prince Crescent.	12	traditional.
Kempley.	8	"
Oxenhall, Four Oaks.	6	"

Council's Housing Programme for 1954:-

Newent (Picklenash).	38-40	traditional.
Cliffords Mesne.	6	"

The Council owned 256 houses at the end of 1953, and these were erected in the following periods:-

Pre-War.	126
During War.	4
Post-War.	126

The total of only 8 Council houses completed during the year is very poor and additional housing in the District is urgently required for the following reasons:-

- i. The Rural Housing Survey carried out in 1945-6 showed that there were 208 houses in the District totally unfit for human habitation and only fit for demolition, and this number has certainly not decreased.
- ii. The number of applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of 1953 was 406, an increase of 13 on the previous year.

It might be said that, now that private building is allowed, these people should build their own houses, but in the vast majority of cases they are not the type of people who could possibly afford to do so.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.	
(a) (i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	724
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	906
(b) (i) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932 etc.	341
(ii) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	478
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	1
(This number is in addition to those previously reported).	
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	161
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.	
(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers.	126
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	-
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	-
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(a) by Owners.	-
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners.	-
(c) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936 section 138 and the Water Act, 1945 section 30.	
(i) Number of houses in which a main water supply was provided after service of formal notices.	
(a) by Owners.	1
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners.	-
(d) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	-
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order.	-
(e) Proceedings under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:-	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	-
4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.	

It is doubtful if there has been any reduction in overcrowding during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47).
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

During the year one case was removed voluntarily by informal action, and in another case removal would have been necessary if it had not been possible to obtain a Home Help.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

In Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 a request was made that the Public Health Department includes a detailed report on food premises in the District. Table 12 gives the particulars asked for.

Table 12.

Type of Business.	Total Number.	No. of Inspections.	Remarks.
Cafes & Canteens.	16	26	This includes school canteens.
Grocery and Provision Shops.	47	131	This includes sweet shops and chemists.
Ice Cream Vendors.	10	36	Registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938.
Butchers Shops.	5	34	No shops are registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938. (Sausage making etc).
Fishmongers.	3	12	This includes fried and wet fish.
Bakehouses.	6	24	These are small and generally fall short of up-to-date hygiene standards.
Licensed Premises.	18	22	Considerable improvements have been carried out in recent years, and the owners co-operate with our requirements.
Dairies.	3	14	Registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949.
Wholesale Premises. (Food Manufacture).	Nil	Nil	Registered under S.14 Food & Drugs Act, 1938.
TOTAL	108	299	

Generally speaking, the standards of the food premises mentioned in Table 12 are satisfactory.

Disposal of condemned food is a very minor matter, and is dealt with by incineration, burial etc.

Milk Supplies.

This district is practically entirely agricultural with nearly 300 milk producers. Most of the milk produced is consumed outside the district and is taken up to the City of Gloucester for pasteurising, or processed at Messrs. Cadbury's factory at Frampton-on-Severn.

The general supervision of dairy farm premises and milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Council have powers under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, with regard to the spread of infectious disease by milk. No action was necessary during the year.

The Council is responsible for registration and licences as shown in Tables 12 and 13, and for retail milk sampling as shown in Table 14.

Table 13. Issue of Licences for Milk Dealers.

Classification of Milk.	Dealers' Licences.	Supplementary Licences.
Accredited.	-	-
Tuberculin Tested.	4	1
Pasteurised.	-	-
Sterilised.	-	-
Non-Designated.	-	-

Note:- Supplementary Licences are issued to dealers who distribute milk from premises situated outside the district.

Table 14. Milk Registrations.

No. of milk distributors registered.	5
No. of dairy premises registered (other than dairy farms).	3

Table 15. Retail Milk Sampling.

Nature of Test.	Results of Examination.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Coliform or plate count (cleanliness).	4	-
Methylene blue (keeping quality).	4	-
Biological (presence of Tb etc).	-	-
Phosphatase (efficiency of pasteurisation).	-	-

Anthrax Order, 1938. Foot and Mouth Disease.

11 suspected cases of anthrax were notified during the year, but none were confirmed.

MEAT

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are now no licensed slaughter-houses in the District. There were six at the outbreak of war, when local slaughtering ceased, but none of them are now licensed.

During the year, 13 slaughtermen's licences were issued by the Council.

As the Council knows, at the outbreak of war in 1939, the slaughtering of all animals was centralised and the needs of the District were met by the Ministry of Food slaughter-houses in Gloucester.

Owing to the welcome demise of the Ministry of Food which is expected in 1954, some of the local slaughter-houses used prior to the war may be brought into use again.

It is expected by the Ministry that all meat slaughtered locally for human consumption will be inspected by a Sanitary Inspector, and every effort will be made to do this.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Transport and Handling of Meat.

A Modern Special Purpose Lorry is used to transport the meat from the abattoirs. The vehicle is regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector during its tour of deliveries. No complaints were received during the year, and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This Department is notified when shops or individuals suspect that articles of food are unfit for human consumption.

Table 16 shows the articles of food condemned during the year.

Table 16.

Articles.	Non-Preserved.	Preserved or Tinned.
Meat.	112 lbs.	33½ lbs Salt Beef. 25 tins.
Poultry.	399 Boiling Fowl. 168 lbs Chicken.	
Fish.		1 tin.
Milk.		62 tins.
Cheese.	11 lbs.	
Vegetables.		17 tins.
Fruit and Fruit Juices.		24 tins.
Soup.		4 tins.
Jam.		2 tins.

It will be seen that the total amount of food stuffs condemned was not large.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations, 1947 & 1948.

During the year no ice cream was manufactured in the District. There are 10 licensed retailers, of which two manufacture their own ice cream, the other retailers purchasing from wholesalers.

Bakehouses.

There are 7 bakehouses registered with the Ministry of Food. 3 informal notices were served and the work required was carried out. Most of the bakehouses are of old construction and cannot easily be modernised.

Adulteration.

The relevant Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are administered by the County Council.

Outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

During the year, no notifications of cases of food poisoning were received.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Table 17.

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises.	No. of premises in Register.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	23	40	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	28	37	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers).	6	11	-	-
TOTAL	57	88	-	-

Table 18.

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	No. of cases where defects were found.				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. I.	by H.M. I.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1).	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp: (S.3).	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent: (S.4).	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	-	-	-	-	-
Latrines (S.7).					
(a) insufficient.	2	2	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Homework).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-

Table 19.

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of work.	Section 110.			Section 111.		
	No. out-workers in Aug. list as req'd.	No. of cases of default in sending lists.	No. prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	Cases of unwholesome premises.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel (Making).	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table 27 shows the incidence of infectious diseases during the year divided into Parishes and age groups. 95 notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, of which 37 were measles.

DIPHTHERIA AND IMMUNISATION.

Tables 21 to 23 give details as to diphtheria immunisation which, as they are of interest to this Council, have been obtained from the County Public Health Department.

There have been no cases of diphtheria in the District since 1949.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.

One case was notified during the year.

SMALL POX AND TYPHOID.

There were no cases, and no contacts requiring supervision were notified as having come into the District.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS.

Table 20 shows the incidence of infectious disease according to returns submitted by the head-teachers. It is of interest, as it shows the incidence of chicken pox and mumps which are not notifiable by General Practitioners.

Table 20.

School.	Average No. on Register.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Mumps.	'Flu
Bromsberrow.	23	-	17	-	-	-	16
Corse.	50	-	-	2	-	-	-
Dymock.	139	-	7	13	-	2	27
Hartpury.	56	-	-	5	4	-	2
Lowbands.	45	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newent Grammar & Secondary Modern.	447	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newent Picklenash Junior School.	330	3	1	1	2	-	-
Pauntley.	39	-	2	1	11	-	1
Staunton.	27	-	-	-	1	-	-
Tibberton.	43	-	-	-	-	-	-
Upleadon.	27	-	10	-	2	-	1
TOTAL	1226	3	37	22	20	2	47

In accordance with the recommendations of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of infectious disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Table 21. Child Population immunised during 1953.

No. of children who completed a full course of immunisation during 1953.	Age at date of final injection.		Total under 15 years.
	0-5 years.	5-14 years.	
During half-year ended 30.6.53.	27	4	31
During half-year ended 31.12.53.	51	15	66
TOTAL	78	19	97

Table 22. Child Population receiving a maintenance dose during 1953 (i.e. a reinforcing dose a few years after the primary immunisation).

During half-year ended 30.6.53.	22
During half-year ended 31.12.53.	47
TOTAL	69

Table 23. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation (children under 15 years only).

Notifications.		Deaths.	
Cases Notified.	Cases Immunised.	Immunised.	Not Immunised.
-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table 24 shows the additions to the Tuberculosis Register during the year and is divided into 'new cases' i.e., cases first diagnosed while living in the District, and 'in-transfer cases' i.e., cases of notified tuberculosis who have come to live in the District.

Table 24. New, In-Transfer Cases and Deaths in 1953.

Age.	New Cases.				In-Transfers.				Total.	Deaths			
	Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.			Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10+	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
25+	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
35+	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
45+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age N.K.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	8	-	1	-	-

Table 25. Cases on the Tuberculosis Register on the 31st December for the last three years.

Year.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total	Per 1,000 Population	
	M	F	M	F		Newent.	County.
1951.	17	5	8	3	33	3.9	7.9
1952.	15	11	7	3	36	4.4	8.2
1953.	15	10	5	3	33	4.05	8.6

Table 26. New, In-Transfer Cases and Deaths in the last three years.

years.

Year.	New and In-Transfer Cases.				Total.	Deaths.				Total
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1951	6	1	2	—	9	—	1	—	—	1
1952.	3	6	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
1953.	3	3	1	1	8	—	1	—	—	1

Table 27. Cases on Tuberculosis Register on December 31st, 1953.
(By Age Groups).

Age.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	-	-	-	-
10+	-	-	1	1	2
15+	2	2	1	-	5
20+	1	2	1	-	4
25+	5	2	-	-	7
30+	2	1	-	-	3
35+	1	1	1	-	3
40+	1	-	-	1	2
45+	-	1	-	-	1
50+	-	1	-	-	1
55+	2	-	1	-	3
60+	1	-	-	1	2
TOTAL	15	10	5	3	33

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (SECTION 172).

No action has been necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

Re-Housing of Tuberculosis Cases.

On the 31st December, 1953, there were 33 cases of notified tuberculosis in the District of which 4 were living in Council houses. This does not mean that the other cases are necessarily living under bad housing conditions, but does suggest that tuberculosis cases recommended by this Department for re-housing should get more priority. (In one of my other Districts over 50% of tuberculosis cases have been re-housed in Council houses).

Good housing is a long-term policy with regard to the eradication of tuberculosis. To a considerable extent it helps towards the cure of the disease, but even more important is the fact that it reduces the likelihood of household contacts becoming infected.

Tuberculosis After Care.

An After Care Committee was formed in 1950 to assist tuberculosis cases in the combined area of Tewkesbury, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Districts. It is purely voluntary, except for a grant of £5 per annum for stationery and postage from the County Council. Financially, thanks to voluntary subscriptions etc., the Committee is in quite a good position and so far, no case deserving assistance has been refused.

The total number of cases of tuberculosis in the area served by the Committee is 296.

Table 28.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious Disease.	Number of Cases by Age Groups.										Distribution of Cases by Parishes.														
	0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65	Age not known.	Total.	Bromsberrow.	Corse.	Dymock.	Hartpury.	Kempley.	Newent.	Oxenhall.	Pauntley.	Redmarley.	Rudford.	Staunton.	Taynton.	Tibberton.	Upleadon.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding G.M.).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia (Prim. or Flu)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Polio-myelitis. (F).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Polio- " (N.F).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Enceph { Inf). " (Post. Inf).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Opnth. Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Small Pox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para-Typhoid fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bnteric fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (contracted E.W).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	9	16	58	7	1	1	1	-	1	95	12	-	20	6	6	29	-	-	-	2	2	2	1	15

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1953.

Table 29 gives the causes of death in the District in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

Table 29.

Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other.	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease.	—	—
4. Diphtheria.	—	—
5. Whooping Cough.	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections.	—	—
7. Acute polio-myelitis.	—	—
8. Measles.	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	—	1
*10. (Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	—
11. (Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	1	—
12. (Malignant neoplasm, breast.	—	2
13. (Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	—	—
14. (Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	4	5
15. (Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	—	—
16. Diabetes.	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	7	8
18. Coronary disease, angina.	8	4
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	2	—
20. Other heart disease.	4	7
21. Other circulatory disease.	2	5
22. Influenza.	3	2
23. Pneumonia.	2	2
24. Bronchitis.	4	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	—	—
31. Congenital malformations.	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	2	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	—	—
34. All other accidents.	1	—
35. Suicide.	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war.	—	—
TOTAL	47	46

Explanatory note.

* Neoplasm equals cancer.

